

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 L-03 INR-10 /033 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/ECA:RCGRAHAM:AF  
APPROVED BY ARA/ECA:RWZIMMERMAN  
-----038107 150921Z /14  
R 150248Z JUL 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 178859

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, UY

SUBJECT: STATUS OF JOSE IGNACIO FONSECA.

REF: A) EMBASSY MEMCON OF 10/5/78; B) 77 STATE 304947;  
C) MONTEVIDEO 5848.

1. AMBASSADOR PEZZULLO MET IN JUNE FOR TWO HOURS WITH LARRY BIRNS, DIRECTOR OF THE COUNCIL ON HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS, FOR A DISCUSSION OF COHA'S PROGRAM AND STRATEGY WITH RESPECT TO URUGUAY. ONE SUBJECT DISCUSSED SPECIFICALLY WAS THE CASE OF JOSE IGNACIO FONSECA. BIRNS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT, GIVEN FONSECA'S TUPAMARO CONNECTIONS, THE PROSPECTS FOR HIS EARLY RELEASE ARE REMOTE. HE EXPLAINED THAT HIS INTEREST IN THE CASE CONTINUES BECAUSE OF THE U.S. KAPLAN FAMILY INTEREST (REF B). VARIOUS IDEAS WERE DISCUSSED, INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF THE AUNT, ELIZABETH KAPLAN FONSECA, VISITING JOSE IN PRISON. THE AMBASSADOR AGREED TO EXPLORE THIS POSSIBILITY UPON HIS RETURN TO POST.

2. ON JULY 13, AT THE REQUEST OF BIRNS, DESK OFFICER GRAHAM SPOKE TO MRS. ELIZABETH FONSECA, WHO LIVES IN  
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NEW YORK. HER UNDERSTANDING OF THE CASE IS REALISTIC, BUT FOR HUMANE REASONS SHE CONTINUES TO BE INTERESTED IN FACILITATING JOSE'S RELEASE AND EXILE FROM URUGUAY. SHE

STATED THAT HIS SENTENCE HAS BEEN INCREASED FROM NINE TO 28 YEARS. OTHER INFORMATION LEADS HER TO BELIEVE HIS PHYSICAL CONDITION HAS DETERIORATED AS A RESULT OF TORTURE.

3. AMBASSADOR PEZZULLO IS AGREEABLE TO MEETING WITH MRS. FONSECA. PRIOR TO DOING SO, HE WOULD LIKE AN UPDATE ON JOSE IGNACIO, PARTICULARLY WITH REFERENCE TO CONFIRMING WHETHER HIS PRISON SENTENCE HAS BEEN EXTENDED AS CLAIMED.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DETENTION, TERRORISTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PRISONERS RELEASE  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1978STATE178859  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RCGRAHAM:AF  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780290-0830  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** SHUM, UY, (FONSECA, JOSE IGNACIO), (PEZZULLO, LAWRENCE A), (BIRNS, LARRY)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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